

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 3 through 9 with the following paragraph:

Figures 5A-5C show the alignment of the human Spastin with the mouse Spastin. Identical amino acids and gaps are represented by dots and hyphens, respectively. The self-homologous region containing the Hsp90 homology occurs at positions 705-833 and 1773-1895, and italics indicate the DnaJ region. The bolded sequences represent leucine zipper motifs, underlined sequences represent coiled coil domains, and the boxed and underlined sequence delineates the putative hydrophilic region. The first coiled coil domain is interrupted by a proline in the mouse sequence.

Amendments to the specification are indicated in the attached "Marked-Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 2-4 and 7.

Please amend Claims 6 and 8.

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6. (Twice Amended) An isolated polynucleotide fragment of SEQ ID NO: 7 comprising nucleotide positions 6593-6395 of SEQ ID NO: 7, wherein the fragment is at least 15 nucleotides in length.
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8. (Twice Amended) A nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes under high stringency conditions to a nucleotide sequence comprising nucleotide positions 6593-6395 of SEQ ID NO: 7 and at least ten flanking nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 7 or the complement of said nucleotide sequence.

Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked-Up Version of Amendments" (page i).